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Chinese Communications

Writing is a worldwide way for communication, yet not all writing is based on a simple alphabet. Chinese writing is based on a system that is hard for a non-Chinese local to understand. Chinese writing can be understood when one realizes it is telling a story through its characters, the number of strokes, and the unique numbering system.

Chinese writing system is unique because they use pictures to stand for their words. The characters used were at first based on people, animals, or other things. Overtime, the characters really do not represent the word it is talking about anymore (Omniglot-Writing). Symbols have been combined together to make new ones (Omniglot-Writing). When writing the language, each character takes up exactly the same amount of space as all the others even if it is more difficult (Omniglot-Writing). No spaces are put between any of the characters even if they are different words (Omniglot-Writing). Chinese is a hard language to read because you have to space all the characters out, find out what they mean, how to pronounce them, and which characters go together and which ones don’t (Omniglot-Writing). In order to draw these symbols, though, you need to get the basic strokes down.

The characters in the writing system can all be broken down into the twelve basic strokes (Omniglot-Strokes). They are dot, horizontal, vertical, left-falling, right-falling, rising, four types of hooks, and two types of turning (Omniglot- Strokes). To write a character, the strokes must be in a certain order and must be written a certain way (Chinese-Strokes). The direction the strokes are written is always the same along with the order of which to write the strokes (Omniglot-Strokes). If you wanted to write a Chinese character the right way, you would need a brush and ink (Chinese-Strokes). It is harder to make a character look good if you use a pencil (Chinese-Strokes). Writing Chinese is more tricky than it looks.

The Chinese writing system also has numbers, but they are written in a different way. If you were to use checks, banknotes, or coins, you would write out the word using the complex numerals, one, two, three (Omniglot-Numerals). You would use the simple numerals, 1, 2, 3, for everything else (Omniglot-Numerals). Unlike the English system of numbers, where we have a name for every number, the Chinese system adds numbers together (Chinese Number System). They use the numbers 0-9 and multiples of 10 to make new numbers (Chinese Number System). Just like the Chinese writing system, the numeral system is just as hard (Chinese Number System).

The Chinese writing system is very similar to the English system, but very different at the same time. The Chinese writing system is unique through its characters, strokes, and numbering system. It is more complex than the English system, which is based on a simple alphabet. This is why the language is so unique in all possible ways.

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